

REMARKS

Claims 24-38 have been canceled. New claims 39-41 have been added and are now pending. No new matter has been added by the amendments herein. Reconsideration is requested.

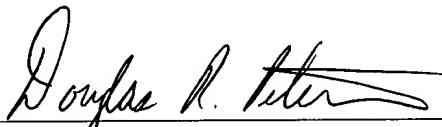
Claims 24-38 have been canceled, and therefore the rejections of the current office action are moot.

The Examiner stated that claims 27, 28 and 30 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has rewritten claims 27, 28 and 30 into independent claims 39, 40 and 41, respectively, including all of the limitations of the base claim. Therefore, claims 39-41 are allowable.

In view of the foregoing, applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested and allowance at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

By: 
Douglas R. Peterson
Registration No. 53,458

Howard Hughes Center
6060 Center Drive, Tenth Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90045
Telephone: (310) 824-5555
Facsimile: (310) 824-9696
Customer No. 24201
44741.1